

## Senator says students lack political impact

By POLIDOROS C. PSEEROS

"It's a cold, hard political fact," Chadron Sen. Sandra Scofield told members of the Nebraska State Students Association (NSSA) Saturday. "I don't think students have a major impact."

Members of the Legislature "view students as a tool of the administration," said lobbyist Richard Lombardi.

Scofield and Lombardi spoke before about 10 student leaders of NSSA at its board of directors meeting at the UNL Student Union. Scofield and Lombardi agreed that, although students had a major impact in reducing budget cuts to the university during the recent special session, the impact will be less in the future.

"The college student is not seen as a major carrier of the tax burden," said Scofield.

Lombardi said university officials have a "condescending attitude" toward students. "They use you when they can, then they discard you," he said.

"You played an important role in the special session," he told the students. Lobbying efforts, including those from UNO, helped reduce budget cuts from 3 percent to 2 percent last fall, he said.

"In exchange for that, you got your tuition increased," he added. UNO students paid a 5 percent tuition surcharge to offset cuts in the budget this year.

"The Legislature is incredibly frustrated in dealing with the

university," said Lombardi, the NSSA lobbyist. He said 25 cents out of every dollar goes to the university system. But the Legislature can't control university spending.

"They don't have line-item control over university spending," he said.

He said a court case, *Exon vs. Board of Regents*, grants the university the authority to spend in any manner it chooses.

Fearing a tight budget last year, the Appropriations Committee asked managers to isolate 5 percent of their budget that could be subject to cuts. "We're still new to the 95/5," said Scofield, a committee member.

When the lists were prepared, committee members were surprised to see certain items, particularly from NU, listed for possible cuts, she said. Officials listed programs such as intercollegiate athletics, UNL's Sheldon Art Gallery and, most recently, the University of Technical Agriculture in Curtis.

"Why did you put this on the list?" Scofield said members are constantly asking.

She said the legislators believe university officials purposely put programs up for cuts that are most likely to irritate the public and have it descend upon the Legislature to restore funding.

Scofield said she understands the strategy. "As a college president, I might do the same thing," she said.

She added that she questions the strategy in a tight budget.

"That's a dangerous game to play," she said. "We're in a different era." Sacred programs could go, she said.

"If you put something on the list to go, you damn well better be serious about it," she said.

Scofield said she anticipates an even tighter budget battle during the current session. She said the economic forecasting board is scheduled to meet Feb. 15 to determine projected receipts for the coming year. She said current receipts show a \$12 million shortage.

She said Gov. Robert Kerrey's budget bill, which recommended a 2.3 percent increase in the budget and a 3 percent increase in salaries, will likely be reduced by the Appropriations Committee. She said several deferred payments that the governor did not include in the package will be put in. A larger cash reserve will also be included.

Scofield advised students to maintain support for higher education and encourage administration to make a careful "examination of priorities and push for reallocation of resources." She added that students should enlist non-students in their cause. The Legislature is extremely responsive to older citizens, said Scofield.

Lombardi said he was going to support 10 bills and resolutions that he hoped would pass during the session. Three of those, the constitutional amendment giving the three student regents

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## Controversial pro-choice activist visits UNO campus

By STACEY WELLING

To some, Bill Baird is more a manifestation of the devil than Lucifer himself.

At St. Ann's Church in New York, services are held for his soul.

Baird once carried a banner reading: "Free Women From the Cross of Religion" to the Bishop of New York's front door.

Later, with television cameras humming, he tacked a proclamation entitled "The 10 Points of Women's Rights" to the door of the Bishop's retreat residence.

Baird is the most visible abortion rights activist in the country, and he was the first of two speakers sponsored by the Women's Resource Center (WRC); he presented the pro-choice stance on abortion. The other, Nancy Berger, of the Nebraska chapter of Women Exploited by Abortion, will lecture today at 7:30 p.m. in the UNO Dodge Room.

Baird's Jan. 22 lecture at UNO marked the 13th anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Roe vs. Wade* decision legalizing abortion.

Yet he predicted that the Supreme Court will reverse its 1973 decision unless pro-choice activists begin challenging the anti-abortionists through the courts and begin generating greater support among college students.

Pro-choice advocates are fighting a one-sided religious war, Baird told his audience of 50 people, mostly women. He said the momentum is definitely with the anti-abortion groups. Jan. 21

in Dallas, for example, there were 12,000 anti-abortionists picketing against 12 pro-choice advocates, he said.

"I predict within two or three years the floor will be gone for us. I feel us losing this war, and we are losing by default. Most of us who support our own rights are so busy trying to get through our studies and trying to survive that when we look at them, say the 40,000 marching in Washington, we can't believe that they could possibly get a right-to-life amendment passed or that our beloved president can appoint two more judges to the Supreme Court before we can kiss the whole ball of wax goodbye," Baird said.

Baird's struggle for the right of Americans to use birth control and receive abortions began in 1963 when he was director of a national pharmaceutical firm.

"I heard a woman screaming in one of the hospitals I was working at," Baird recalled. "I ran to the hallway and saw the woman staggering. When I caught her, I noticed an 8-inch coat hanger sticking out of her body."

"I remember her holding my hand because she knew she was dying; she was worried about the eight children she had. She died in my arms."

Since then, Baird has given all his time, energy and money fighting for a woman's right to choose, said Arlie Katzman, chairwoman of

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—Patrick C. Stephenson

Pro-choice activist Bill Baird displays some potentially lethal methods of home abortion during his UNO appearance last week. These, said Baird, are the alternatives to legalized abortion.

## Pro-life supporters offer flip side of abortion issue

By PATRICK C. STEPHENSON

While last-minute preparations were being made to welcome pro-choice activist Bill Baird to the UNO campus Jan. 22, several hundred pro-life supporters gathered on the other side of Dodge Street to remind Omahans that there are still two sides to the abortion issue.

The pro-life rally, sponsored by Metro Right to Life, began at St. Margaret Mary's Church and moved along Dodge Street toward Memorial Park. During their march to the park, pro-life supporters carried candles, red roses and signs bearing anti-abortion slogans.

Pete Bataillon, vice-chairman, Metro Right to Life, said the decision to hold the pro-life rally at Memorial Park involved more than the fact that Baird was to speak nearby. "The significance of this place is that it's a memorial for the dead," he said, "and that's what we're doing — mourning the dead."

Once gathered at the park, pro-life supporters listened to the Rev. John Fiala, of St. Columbkille Church. Fiala asked his supporters to pray "for an end to the modern-day holocaust — for an end to abortion in our country, and throughout the world."

Fiala's comments were especially significant because they came on the 13th anniversary of the Supreme Court's *Roe vs. Wade* decision. It was that case that legalized abortion in the United States.

"Are we better off because of the 13 years of abortion? Are there less poor people? Are women better off? We all know the answers to these questions," said Fiala. "It was a sad day for

America when the Supreme Court legalized abortion on demand."

Fiala said he feels that many women would think twice about having an abortion if they would accept the idea that what they are destroying is not simply a blob of tissue but another living person. He said that many women escape this line of thought because they have an abortion during the first three months of their pregnancy.

Fiala said that while he feels that abortion is the taking of a human life, he is not attempting to pass judgement on those who disagree with his views. "We're not condemning anybody," said Fiala, "but we're condemning abortion, because abortion is destruction."

Fiala said that he holds no personal grudge against those who support a pro-choice stance, but that individuals such as Baird are "basically misguided" in their beliefs. "I'm sure he (Baird) believes in what he's doing. I'm sure that he's trying to do what's right. But, then again, the evidence clearly indicates that he's wrong."

Rich Gilloon, chairman, Metro Right to Life, agrees that Baird is not an "evil" man. "I hope that someday he changes his mind because he's a hell of an advocate. If he worked as hard for the pro-life movement, he'd be invaluable. I have no personal animosity toward anybody who is pro-abortion," he said.

"I don't hate those people. I'm fighting what they believe in and I hope to change their minds, but I'm not in a position to

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—Patrick C. Stephenson

Pro-life supporters march from St. Margaret Mary's Church toward Memorial Park during last week's rally sponsored by the Metro Right to Life.



# Activist condemns anti-abortion violence, harassment

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the Pro-Choice Coalition of Omaha. He was jailed eight times for dispensing nonprescription contraceptives, Katzman said.

His efforts led to the 1972 legalization of birth control for single people by the Supreme Court in *Baird vs. Eisenstadt*. Baird's birth-control case was quoted six times in the 1973 decision which legalized abortion. The Court reasoned that it is the right of an individual, married or single, to decide whether or not to bear children, Baird said.

Baird appeared before the Supreme Court once again in 1979 in *Baird vs. Bellotti*, where he successfully challenged a Massachusetts law which attempted to require both parents consent for minors wanting abortion.

Reversing the court's decision on abortion will not stop abortions — just how they're done and where, Baird added. He flashed a photograph of a woman who died in a motel room after attempting a self-induced abortion.

"I'm sick and tired of hearing about fetuses versus human beings called women. I can prove in any court that this was a woman — an alive human being with potential human beings in her ovaries that are now finished.

"How can we hear anti-abortion people say from the moment of conception, a fertilized egg

is a person? Six weeks equal one-fourth an inch, eight weeks equals one-half an inch — it's embryonic tissue that's no more a person than an acorn is an oak tree," Baird said.

Not everyone in the crowd was pro-choice. During a question/answer session, Paul Rosberg, who is running for the Republican nomination for governor of Nebraska, stood up and said that during a pregnancy, doctors suggested that his wife have an abortion because she was too ill to carry a child full-term. The Rosbergs decided against an abortion.

Then Rosberg waved a picture of his family before the crowd as he pointed out his daughter and said, "Her name is Ana, and she is alive, and she is a human being.

"Here's a picture of Jesus Christ holding a little, baby infant. He grieves over what you do.

"When I become governor of this state," Rosberg continued, "I'd do all I possibly can to prosecute people that actually murder the innocent and most weakest little infants that you could possibly have. And I will see to it personally, after being given their right to a trial by jury — hopefully prosecuted — that they will be hung out on the streets, prosecuted of murder."

"I want the rest of you to see the depth of

sensitivity of pro-life people," Baird replied.

"Can we not communicate as civil human beings?" Baird asked. "We can argue the abortion issues, but can I not ask the anti-abortion people to stop referring to us who disagree as part of a Nazi holocaust, as murderers, as killers, as the devil?"

He condemned such anti-abortion tactics as fire bombings, invasion of clinics, beatings and harassments of patients, and he called for anti-abortion advocates to find out among themselves who is responsible for the "terrorism" and to have the perpetrators prosecuted.

"We will never force an anti-abortion person to go through an abortion against their will. All I want back is never force a woman to go through childbirth against her will.

"Every American has a right to medical treatment without being harassed," Baird added.

"I don't think anyone has the right to yell fire in a crowded theater, and I don't think anyone has the right to yell murder in an operating room, or, for that matter, outside of an operating room. Yet women are subjected to this all across the United States."

Be creative and be courageous, Baird told the audience. Don't wait for these "bullies" to make their move — meet them head on, he

said.

Baird encouraged the audience to file law suits against the tax exemptions of anti-abortion church groups which use the money for lobbying purposes. Individuals can write letters to their legislatures in support of women's rights, Baird said. Counter-picket against the anti-abortionists who stand outside clinics, Baird added.

"No man is really free unless women are free. Only when men and women are free in equal partnership, can we truly understand the concept of equality, which I have dedicated my life to — not abortion — but freedom, equality and dignity for all of us."

Baird plans to increase his efforts to lecture on college campuses. There is strength in college students, because they are young and at least 50 percent are sexually active, he said.

Yet Baird received death threats where ever he goes, Katzman said. A UNO security officer escorted Baird outside to his car after the lecture.

"I don't know if there's going to be a gun outside," Baird added. "Think of living like that. I've given up 23 years of my life. I've been shot at, punched, kicked and fire bombed. But I'm the most stubborn person you'll ever meet, and I will never surrender."

## Legislature 'incredibly frustrated' in dealing with university

(continued from page 1)

a combined vote, a community work-study bill and the 3 percent increase in salaries, were considered the top three items by the students.

Lombardi said the Constitutional Revision and Recreation Committee decided at the hearing Friday to delay action on the student regent vote issue pending the Attorney General's opinion. He said there was an issue as to the one man, one vote aspect of the vote. Students could be represented by the regent in whose district they live and by their student regent.

He said if the attorney general gives a favorable opinion, the resolution could get out of committee. He admitted that the committee is split on the issue but the students received an unexpected boost at the hearing.

"The regents testified against it," he said. "That probably will get you one or two votes."

If it gets to the floor, it has a chance, Lombardi said. "It doesn't hurt the Legislature," he said. "It doesn't cost money. I would say 50-50."

The measure requires 30 senators to approve it before it can be placed on the ballot in November. Executive director Deb Chapelle said it would be difficult for the NSSA to campaign for it.

"Passing referendums is costly," she said. "We don't have the money." She added that the NSSA represents students from Penn State, Wayne State and Chadron State as well as UNO and UNL. She added that the vote is also being considered by student trustees at those colleges.

The amendment allowing student regents was passed in 1974 with 198,737 for and 198,024 against. A huge positive response from Douglas County assured the vote.

Lombardi said "it's pretty archaic" that students don't have the vote. A survey indicates that student representatives are

voting members of the board of trustees at Indiana, Pittsburg, Oregon, Maryland, Penn State and Minnesota Universities.

Lombardi said the work-study bill, LB 133, was killed in the Education Committee Wednesday.

"Every aid bill in Education Committee got axed," he said. He added Farnam Sen. Tom Vickers, the chairman, said the tight financial situation in the state would not allow these measure to get serious consideration.


He said the work-study bill would provide that 70 percent of a student's work-study salary would be paid by the employer and 30 percent by the state. He said the bill would work like an apprenticeship.

Lombardi said LB 1072, sponsored by Ralston Sen. Chris Abboud, would establish a tax-credit for on-the-job training. He supported that bill but said the revenue committee may not look favorably on programs that give tax-credits at this time.

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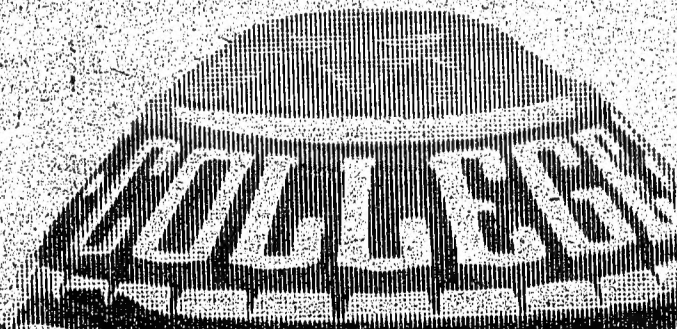
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## Senate handles unfinished business

The Student Senate used its Thursday meeting time to consider some unfinished business.

Much of the meeting centered upon a \$300 request from the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA). The ASPA requested the funds to cover travel expenses for 23 students to attend a conference in Kansas City. The original request was made Oct. 12, 1985, but the Budget Committee never acted on it. No budget meetings were held until December because Student Senate elections were held in October.

Senate Speaker Jim Carter said the senate has obligations that the "committee should have met."

The problem, said Sen. Jerald Hohndorf, was that most of the senators who were on the Budget Committee last semester did not return to the senate. Sen. Don Carlson said the ASPA was under the assumption that "if they (ASPA) didn't hear anything they were assuming everything was all right."

ASPA borrowed \$300 for the conference trip from the public administration fund. The senate noted that ASPA came up with most of the funds on its own.

Carlson said the ASPA request was the last "budget mess"

to clear from last year. Funding for ASPA passed.

A \$300 request by Phi Gamma Mu for eight students to attend a two-day mock trial competition also passed.

A request by the Pen and Sword Society for \$412.50 was reduced to \$120. The funds were to be used for *Gateway* advertisements, telephone expenses and newsletters.

Student President/Regent Allison Brown moved to strike \$250 for telephone expenses and \$42.50 for *Gateway* advertising.

The senate noted that Pen and Sword usually receives two UNO football season tickets to raffle, but did not receive them in 1985.

After the \$292.50 was stricken from the Pen and Sword request, the remaining \$120 was approved. Carter said that Pen and Sword is one of the most organized groups on campus and would find a way to raise the rest of the money.

In other business, the senate:

— Heard a short report from Carter concerning child care. A proposal was sent to UNO administration.

— Passed a motion removing Sen. Bryan McGee from his seat because of his continued absence from senate meetings.

## What's Next

The Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women opens its Brown Bag Series Jan. 30 in the Student Center Dodge Room at 11:30 a.m. Bob Carlson, chairman of the communications department, will present "Public Speaking: An Important Skill for your Career." The presentation is free.

### Learn and communicate

The UNO Learning Center and Counseling/University Division are co-sponsoring a series of College Survival Seminars. Today, Jeanette Hosek will talk about "Learning Styles." Jan. 30 and 31, the Rev. Nancy Phillips will give a presentation on "Interpersonal Communication." Feb. 4, Judy Harrington will review "Reading Strategies." All seminars meet in the Council Room, third floor of the Student Center, at noon.

### Marshy mysteries

The second film in the Audubon Wildlife Film Series, *The Marsh — A Quiet Mystery*, will be shown Jan. 31 in the Kiewit Conference Center auditorium, 13th and Farnam Streets, at 7:30 p.m. The film explores a Great Lakes marsh and the animals that live there. Single admission tickets are \$3; admission for students and senior citizens is \$2.50.

## Pro-lifer willing to inflict guilt to stop just one abortion

(continued from page 1)

say, "This is a good human being and that is a bad human being." I have enough trouble worrying about myself — whether I'm being good or bad."

One thing that was consistently missing from Gilloon's comments was the phrase "pro-choice." Instead, the 33-year-old attorney said he prefers to use the phrase "pro-abortionist" when referring to those who support the Supreme Court decision in *Roe vs. Wade*.

"The pro-abortionists call themselves 'pro-choice' because they say, 'We're not fighting for abortion. We don't insist that anyone have an abortion. We just want the freedom to choose.'"

"The way I look at it, if you're not against abortion, you're for it. It's copping out to say I'm against abortion, personally, but I couldn't tell anyone else they can't abort. To me that's like saying I'm against murder or I'm against rape, personally, but I can't tell the guy across the street not to murder anybody."

At the same time, however, Gilloon said he feels those who oppose abortion are justified in calling themselves "pro-life."

despite claims from the other camp that they are actually "anti-choice" or simply "anti-abortion."

"The clearest way for us to demonstrate what's involved — what's at the heart of the issue — is to call ourselves 'pro-life' and call them 'pro-abortion' because they will do anything to get the discussion away from 'is it human life?'"

"They'll say, 'We don't know that.' They'll say, 'The Supreme Court says it's legal.' But the Supreme Court never said that it's not human life," they said, "We don't know." And medical science pretty much laughs at that decision."

Asked about charges that pro-life supporters harass women who plan to have abortions or otherwise attempt to force excess guilt upon women as they walk into abortion clinics, Gilloon said he knows of no members of his organization who do anything that would fall into the first category.

If, however, attempts to inform women about the consequences of abortion causes excess guilt, Gilloon said he has no problem with that.

"I don't have a deep personal reluctance to confront a person who is about to have an abortion," he said. "If I can get that person not to get the abortion and the price was inflicting guilt

on people who choose to go ahead and get the abortion, I think that's a fair trade-off."

"If you can get one woman out of five to turn around and not go into the abortion clinic, and the other four feel guilty, I think that's a fair trade-off."

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# Comment

## Paying extra to jack things up with the human touch

It is an incredible time to be alive for anyone interested in the real world.

For "the real world" read "the part of the universe that has nothing to do with Earth," which of course means the huge, overwhelming and inconceivably vast majority.

Voyager 2, after eight and one-half years in space on a voyage of several *billion* miles, is sending back information on Uranus that will take years to analyze. For a system that was only supposed to make it to Saturn, that's not too shabby.

Halley's Comet is in the neighborhood for its once-in-an-average-lifetime visit. It's not the most spectacular show it's ever put on, but it's there, and we can see it. Most of us will be dead when it comes back again.

This year the space telescope will go into earth orbit, giving astronomers unparalleled views of the universe, unobstructed by atmosphere or artificial light interference. The improved resolution will allow for detailed observation hitherto impossible with earth-based telescopes.

These events are even more interesting if examined under a common light — their relationship to the manned space program, and particularly to NASA's space shuttle. Each one in its own way points up what James A. Van Allen calls a "disparity between promise and realization" in the United States' manned space program.

Van Allen is the scientist who discovered the Van Allen radiation belts around the Earth via Explorer I, the first successful U.S. Earth satellite. In the Jan. 1986 issue of *Scientific American*, Van Allen makes some telling observations about the U.S. space exploration effort.

The Voyager 2 program in many respects succeeded in *spite* of the space shuttle. Reception of information from Voyager 2 was one of a multitude of programs slated to be cut or cancelled to provide funding for the shuttle. The decision in 1981 to sacrifice for shuttle development other, less glamorous programs Van Allen calls the "slaughter of the innocent." Along with cuts in Voyager funds, NASA partially or completely eliminated funds for the International Solar Polar mission, the Galileo probe to Jupiter, data reception from Pioneers 10, 11, and Venus 1, the LANDSAT program and planned missions to Venus and Mars.

Of course, one program that got cancelled altogether was the U.S. mission to Comet Halley. Our once-in-an-average-lifetime chance was sacrificed for the sake of a manned U.S. presence in Earth orbit. The question is, was the sacrifice a worthwhile one?

Van Allen says no. To support his argument, he cites some interesting figures. In the early '70s, proponents of the shuttle program maintained that the shuttle would replace expendable launch vehicles and would fly 50 missions a year by the 1980s, with each flight delivering 50,000 pounds of payload into low earth orbit at a cost of \$100 per pound. Of the 50 flights, at least four were to have carried spacecraft for exploring other planets.

The record shows that in 1985 only 10 shuttle flights were carried out at a cost of \$2,000 per pound in 1971 dollars, 20 times the original estimate, and no planetary spacecraft has been launched in the four years of shuttle operation.

This might all still be worth it if there were a compelling reason for sending humans into space, but Van Allen can find

none that actually further scientific research. Most scientific space missions require orbits that are and will be for many years inaccessible to manned vehicles.

The delicacy of space experiments require stable platforms free from vibration, acceleration and certain types of magnetic and electric fields, all of which are part and parcel of a human presence and the systems needed to support it.

Van Allen maintains that it is *more* costly and difficult to design space equipment that can be repaired in space by humans, one of the big selling-points of the shuttle. It is cheaper, says Van Allen, to build equipment that need not meet those specifications, and that any repair by humans in space amounts to a dangerous and costly heroic measure that is simply unnecessary.

Finally, Van Allen points out that the most that can be expected of a human in the cramped and dangerous environment of a space craft are the simple functions of a skilled technician. All the sophisticated controls of an in-flight experiment are of necessity automatic or radio-commanded, just as in a robot flight. In short, Van Allen says, the only purpose served by humans on board space craft is to jack things up.

This is a disturbing conclusion to arrive at on a program that has so far cost American taxpayers about \$30 billion. It will be interesting to see if anyone compares the cost of having the shuttle put the space telescope into position with the cost of any proposed unmanned approaches. We may be doing things the hard way and paying more for the privilege; a sad state of affairs made more so by its being an all-too familiar one.

—DAN PRESCHER

## Neurotica by Karen Nelson Orange-crate culture shock

Linda seemed a bit dazed when I ran into her at the Student Center last week. "You wouldn't believe what I did last week. And I know my parents would never understand it. Right now, I feel like a culture-shock victim."

"What happened?" I asked. "Did you just get back from a trip to Asia? Europe? South America? West Omaha?"

Linda shook her head. "Oh, no, nothing like that. I just spent Wednesday night making an orange crate out of a kit."

That captured my attention. "An orange crate kit? You're kidding, of course. Why?"

"No, I'm not kidding," said Linda. "For \$8.95, you get the wood, nails and instructions, and you put it together yourself. I needed something to store albums in, so I went to the record store and bought the kit. I got tired of keeping things in cardboard boxes."

Since Linda has been living in the same apartment for the last three years, I could understand why she was tired of living out of cardboard boxes. A fruit crate, even a do-it-yourself one, seemed a step up in permanency.

"I was really getting into it," said Linda.

"Here I was, just banging away with the hammer, making sure the wood lined up *exactly* right before I put the nail in, when it dawned on me that Mom and Dad would probably think I was nuts. When they were my age — heck, even 20 years ago or so they wouldn't have bought an orange crate kit. Even if they did, they sure wouldn't have paid \$8.95 for one. They would have just gone to the supermarket and got one from the produce department, probably for nothing."

What stopped Linda from doing exactly that? "Nothing," she said. "In fact, the grocery store was my first stop. You know something? *Nothing* comes in wooden crates any more. Not apples, not oranges, not celery. Everything comes in cardboard boxes now. The cardboard boxes I had barely made it through my move, much less storage. If you get them wet or overload them just once, you might as well throw them out, because they won't last."

That, Linda said, was only the beginning of her bout with culture shock. The next day, she went to class and found herself face-to-face with the computer age.

"I really wanted to learn how to work the

computers," she said. "Everyone has a computer — everyone but me, that is — and I felt a little old-fashioned because I liked my Selectric so much. I thought learning the VAX would be like learning my sister's Apple — you turn it on, and the screen lights up with 'hi there, what do *you* want to do today?' or something like that."

"Not the terminals we're using in class. First, the terminal I sat behind wasn't working, so I had to move. Then, I had to wait for it to warm up. Then I had to 'log on' by typing in my password. No password, no way to use the computer. It took me three tries to get the password right. By then, of course, my classmates were ready to print the novels they typed in the meantime. Whenever I wanted to type, edit or print, it all showed up on the screen as 'ERROR'."

Clearly, Linda was having a difficult time coping with the 20th century. "Can't help you with the VAX, I'm afraid," I said. "I never was good at it, either. Neither was anyone else I know, even people who work with computers."

"Wait," said Linda. "The last straw came

Friday. Someone came up to me and asked me if I knew anything about the paper bag art show. 'What art show?' I asked. 'Is this a lunch-time lecture series or something?'

"She said no, the UNO Art Gallery was asking people to decorate paper bags, submit them for exhibit, and the bags would go on display at the gallery. 'Come on,' I said, 'You can't be serious.'"

"She was," said Linda. "And after the exhibit's over, you know what? They're going to put all the bags in a trash compactor, smash them all together, and put the result on display at the gallery."

For once, I couldn't think of anything to say. Mind you, I have nothing against art made out of found objects — oh, all right, junk. Paper bags, I suppose, qualify. But *trash compacting* the *objets d'art* at the end of the exhibit and putting the mashed-up mess in the gallery as art — that's stretching the limits of art.

"Maybe I missed my calling," said Linda. "Gee, if all you have to do these days to be an artist is throw some paper bags into a trash compactor, then anyone can do it. No wonder no one takes art seriously these days."

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## Op Ed



Jeffrey A. Kallman

In *Suicide of the West*, James Burnham recorded a kind of "diagnostic test" he devised, a test composed of 39 sentences taken from one or another article of liberal faith at the time (this was in 1964). This "test" required only an "agree" or "disagree" reply (in by-and-large terms) from the respondent — the idea being to determine whether an even balance of ideological opinion might be found in a typical liberal or conservative.

The most arresting of Burnham's sentences, however, may have been Number 29: "Joseph McCarthy was probably the most dangerous man in American public life during the 15 years following the Second World War."

That sentence holds a particular kind of truth even today, if one considers McCarthy remains (if you will pardon me) a red flag to which a good many rush like mad bulls, whether or not they were in fact alive and active during the height of McCarthy's notoriety. The year does not long live before there arrives at least something to inspire a review of McCarthy, with particular emphasis upon the image and the mythology which continues to surround it.

Two years ago, for example, such a some-

thing came my way: the republication of *Fear On Trial*, John Henry Faulk's recollection of his own black-listing (by a private watchdog group, Aware Inc.), and his successful lawsuit against his blacklisters. This case was once one of the samples of McCarthy's dirty deeds, notwithstanding Faulk was hit while McCarthy himself was on the ropes (i.e., at the time of the Army-McCarthy hearings).

I suggested, in a commentary I wrote about Faulk's book, something I continue to maintain: no examination of McCarthyism (the reality or the mythology) can be done properly, unless one is willing to examine at once McCarthy's who carried the call of their hero a few steps too far, and the anti-McCarthyites whose own tactics frequently made McCarthy resemble the model of decorum.

This comes to mind now that Home Box Office is showing its own production of *Murrow* to its subscribers. Edward R. Murrow, of course, is remembered more for his 1954 program dealing with McCarthy, than for most of the work which earned him his reputation as the seminal broadcaster of his era. And, truth to tell, his performance with McCarthy remains

a model of painful objectivity: Murrow's summation continues to read as a bold, yet measured reply to a man whose free-swinging methods had caused discomfort; indeed, had created problems for the anti-Communist cause which continue to give it a name of dishonor.

McCarthy created his share of problems, all right. But one is compelled to wonder, when presented with voluminous material which covers the matter, how it was that so many (presumably) responsible people found themselves caught up in the entire rumble.

There were those who decreed that anyone who offered less than kind words about such things as Stalin's purge trials or the 16 million Eastern Europeans who were sent to die in camps in the Soviet Union, was a fascist. There were those who decreed that anyone who denounced the strangulation of freedom of speech and press in the Soviet Union was playing right into McCarthyite hands. There were those who vouchsafed, against tangible evidence, the innocence of Alger Hiss, the possibility that one could be anti-McCarthyite and anti-Communist without losing face in the long run, and the

impending suffocation of any opinion which ran contrary to McCarthyism (real or imagined).

And the malady continues to live onward. One can make simple note of how quick some people reply to those who present evidence of the communization of Nicaragua, the slaughters of Mao and Pol Pot, the Soviet bankrolling of terror, and the coopting of the United Nations against the West, with hoots and hollers which suggest such presenters are, really, just another bunch of fear-mongering scamps (McCarthyites?) who refuse to come to terms with history.

Don't take my word for it. Take the words of William O'Neill (*A Better Word: Stalinism and the Intellectuals*), Allan Weinstein (*Perjury: The Hiss-Chambers Case*), Murray Kempton (*Part Of Our Time*), Thomas C. Reeves (*The Life And Times of Joe McCarthy*), for beginners; then, unless one is an immobile idologue, one will have a difficult time in determining McCarthy was anything more (or less) than what Whittaker Chambers (surprise!) called him in 1954: "a puncher . . . who telegraphs his fouls in advance." Hardly the stuff which ideological terrorists are made.

## The myth of McCarthyism



John Malnack II

A letter to the editor that arrived last week at the *Gateway* inspired a spirited discussion between a *Gateway* staff member and myself concerning the extent of racial prejudice in the United States today.

The letter, which appeared on page four of the Jan. 24 *Gateway* and was signed "A Jamal-Rashad Byndon, A Victim of Racism in U.S.A.," was in response to part of an editorial I wrote titled "Of typos, terror, and timorous toadies" (see Jan. 15 *Gateway*). Specifically, Mr. Byndon responded to my comments on Omaha State Sen. Ernie Chambers' recent remarks concerning Libyan leader Col. Moammar Khadafi.

In his letter, Mr. Byndon wrote, "...I couldn't help but notice the 'white person knows best' mentality" in said editorial. Mr. Byndon wrote that my comments "...reflected an asinine mentality, as well as an arrogant form of scapegoating."

Referring to the *Gateway*, Mr. Byndon wrote, "I hope attacks by an all-white newspaper against the only real elected Black figure in the State of Nebraska will deal with the substance of the issues and not denigrate (did you mean *degenerate*, Mr. Byndon?) into an escapism mentality that racism doesn't exist."

I am encouraged whenever people write letters to the *Gateway* — it indicates they read this newspaper and something struck enough of a chord within them that they were prompted to respond.

I try to observe a policy of not responding to *Gateway* readers' letters, for two reasons: 1) I do not want to become entangled in a forensic volleyball game within these pages — the *Gateway* is no place for that; and 2) I do not wish to give readers the mistaken impression that I must have the last word when someone responds to something I wrote.

However, I now feel obliged to *elaborate* on those of my comments that inspired Mr. Byndon to write, and in so doing, I must respond to portions of Mr. Byndon's letter.

First, a couple of relatively minor points that struck me as I

read Mr. Byndon's letter. I wondered why he consistently capitalized the words "black" and "blacks"; they were used neither as proper nouns nor proper names.

If, as Mr. Byndon claimed, Sen. Chambers is "...the only real elected Black figure..." in Nebraska, I suppose this means that Omaha City Councilman Fred Conley is a figment of my imagination.

Mr. Byndon also surely realizes that a *Gateway* columnist's opinions are not necessarily the editorial positions of the newspaper itself. This from the *Gateway* "staff box": "Unsigned opinions . . . represent the views of The Gateway editorial staff."

I regret any ambiguity in my editorial that led readers such as Mr. Byndon to infer that I was suggesting racism no longer exists. What I wrote was: "C'mon, Ernie. Is this the only way you can make headlines, by couching most every issue in terms of racism? That's an old saw, especially from you."

The "old saw" to which I referred was Sen. Chambers' proclivity for linking racism with so many issues when the nexus often seems tenuous at best. It seems as though, in Chambers' world, there is a racist hiding behind every tree.

Hardly do I contend that racism no longer exists — undoubtedly it does, although to what degree is a subject about which reasonable persons can disagree. (And it is not the purpose of this commentary to enumerate the myriad injustices resulting from racial discrimination.)

However, I do question the practice — which I believe Sen. Chambers evinces — of alleging racial discrimination so frequently that, as in the story of the man who cried "Wolf!", one risks inuring people to the real thing.

Past and present discrimination surely is responsible for a measure of those problems that currently plague many members of minority racial groups in this nation. But it would be naive to believe that discrimination is the cause of all these problems.

Those whose inflammatory rhetoric includes seemingly unabated allegations of rampant racism also often seem to make

sweeping generalizations all too easily. Sen. Chambers called Nebraska a racist state, as did Mr. Byndon in his letter. Is one then to believe that all of the more than one million Nebraskans — including Sen. Chambers' own constituents — are racists?

Mr. Byndon also wrote this generalization: "Blacks hold the belief that racism is increasing at an alarming rate." Precisely how did Mr. Byndon determine this? Did he simply assume that, because this is his opinion, all other blacks (Mr. Byndon is black) agree with him?

To say that racial prejudice should be denounced and combatted wherever it exists is to state the obvious. But when such denunciation degenerates into incessant vitriolic criticism in which all society is haphazardly labelled racist, the critic can come to be viewed as a racist himself, whereupon alienation, not persuasion, is the result. This contributes to an adversarial, us-vs.-them mindset in which persons are seen only as part of a group, not as individuals. And isn't that the hallmark of racism?

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# Review

## 'Foreigner' comedy sparkles with charm

*The Foreigner* is warm, funny, self-deprecating. Winner of the 1985 Obie Award for the best Off-Broadway production and the 1985 Outer Critics' Award for the best new American play, Larry Shue's comedy sparkles at the Firehouse Dinner Theatre.

Like the protagonist, Charlie Baker, *The Foreigner* suffers from certain deficiencies. A lot of little details are never satisfactorily explained. The play is set in Georgia, but Charlie's an Englishman. How he and his terminally-ill wife ended up in the Deep South, or how Charlie ran into his old friend from the army, Sgt. "Froggy" Lesuer, we do not know. These two characters inform us, however, in the initial minutes of the play that "Froggy" has hauled Charlie away from his wife's hospital bed for three recuperative days at Betty Meeks's fishing lodge. Charlie is petrified at the prospect of having to converse with Mrs. Meeks and her boarders. He cannot make idle conversation, he is boring, he has no personality — a fact his faithless wife and lackluster career as a science fiction proofreader confirm.

So "Froggy," full of good intentions and blarney, tells Mrs. Meeks Charlie is a "foreigner" on hush-hush government business; he can neither speak nor understand English. The play assumes not only a great deal of ignorance on the part of Mrs. Meeks explains to the marginally retarded Ellard Simms, then the custom of his country and people is to be respected. Ellard and Charlie become friends as they teach each other the values of respect and self-esteem.

Pivotal to the audience's acceptance of the situation and involvement in the story is the innocence and sincerity of Charlie Baker as portrayed by John Paul Gamoke. Charlie discovers himself newborn as an object of fascination. He is granted the exceptional freedom to do and be anything he wants. If Charlie wants to wear his juice glass on his head after breakfast, Mrs. Meeks explains to the marginally retarded Ellard Simms, then the custom of his country and people is to be respected. Ellard and Charlie become friends as they teach each other the values of respect and self-esteem.

John Paul Gamoke has a wonderful rubber face that can be pushed up, pulled down, pressed sideways into an expressive

range of emotions. He takes a timid, nervous loser and sculpts him into a courageous man. The essential element of Charlie's character, however, was constructed by the playwright. Charlie cares. He feels for people, he wants things to come out right, he believes the good guys can win. It is this confidence, this hopefulness, as conveyed by Gamoke that proves the most satisfying aspect of the play.

The bad guys, Rev. David Marshall Lee and Owen Musser, are trying to steal Mrs. Meeks's house. They want to turn it into a "Christian hunt club," the world headquarters of the Imperial Empire, the Ku Klux Klan. Rev. Lee is a smooth, behind-the-scenes operator. He is a guest in Mrs. Meeks's lodge, engaged to one of her boarders, Cathrine Simms. Owen Musser is the out-and-out heavy. He's gotten the lodge condemned, Mrs. Meeks can't afford to fix it up, and she can't ask much of a price if she sells it. Rick Kleber is not very frightening as the strong-arm man Musser, but Tom Paul Drake is convincing as an oily snake in the grass — Rev. Lee.

The playwright gave Cathrine Simms marvelous lines — lamenting her role as a minister's fiancée, knowing she wasn't born to be decent — but Kim McDaniel Robuck makes the part whiny instead of earthy and full-bodied. She seems pouty, adolescent and terribly annoying. American theater enjoys a tradition of spoiled Southern women, but they're spoiled in the sense of being over-ripe, not brats.

Jerry Longe is believable and sweet as the confused Ellard. He sees the inconsistencies in life and people, but is told they only appear that way because he is stupid. His openness and eagerness to be helpful are shown to be qualities superior to "brains."

"Froggy" provides a framework for the play. He's in at the beginning and the end, and helps propel the piece forward in the middle. Duke Howze generated laughs with his wry expressions and deadpan delivery, but "Froggy" seemed to be a bit overdone. He was used for comic relief in a play that is already all farce — rather like putting whipped cream on a three-pound banana split.

Susan K. Selyey took the part of Betty Meeks at the last moment and her timing as well as her delivery were off. She



*The Foreigner* cast members: Top Row — Rick Kleber, Susan Selyey, Duke Howze, Tom Paul Drake. Bottom Row — Jerry Longe, John Paul Gamoke, Kim McDaniel Robuck.

didn't match the tempo or the spirit of the rest of the cast, and consequently her character seemed phony. Perhaps with continued performances Selyey will find the character and her place in the company.

There were some problems with blocking in The Firehouse production. When the majority of the cast was on stage, the grouping was too clustered. Most people don't appreciate looking at an actor's back, and the placement of a piece of furniture at the very edge of the stage was discomfiting. Richard Mueller directed a fine show, however, and provided a light-hearted, entertaining evening.

*The Foreigner* will be at The Firehouse Dinner Theatre through the first week of March. Performances are every night except Monday, with matinees Wednesday and Sunday. Prices range from \$12.50 for Wednesday matinees to \$21.50 for a Saturday evening.

—PATTI DALE

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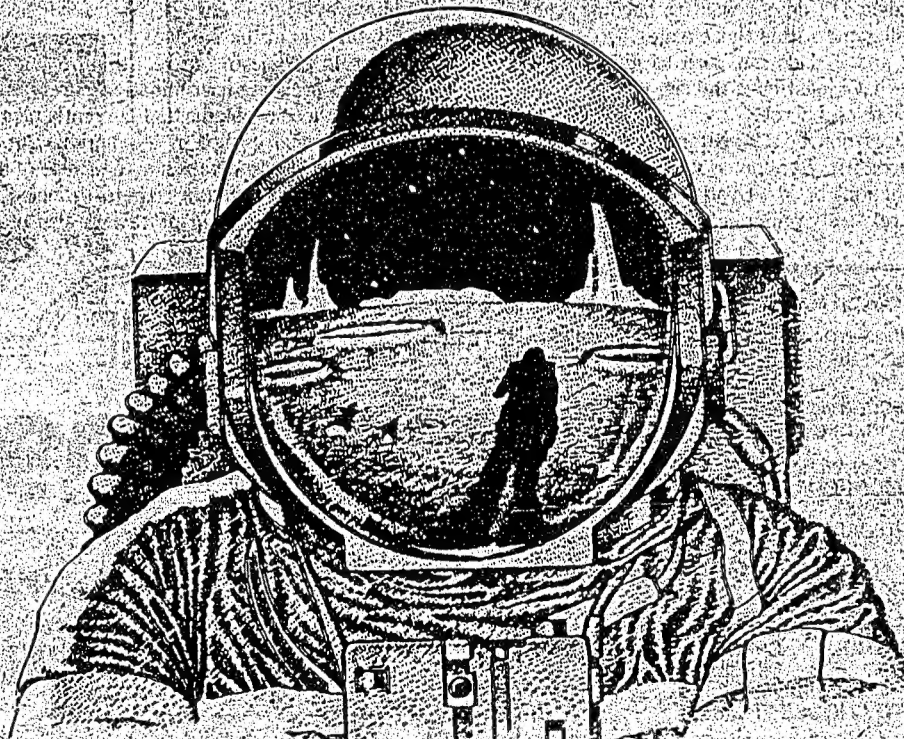
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# Resource center holds sexual harassment seminar

By DEANA VODICKA

Sexual harassment in the workplace is a struggle of the "powerful vs. the powerless," Jeff Ross said Thursday.

Ross, director of the Omaha Human Relations Department, was the first speaker in the Women's Resource Center's Women and Work Series.

"People with power often abuse their power," regardless of sex, he said.

Ross said sexual harassment is "an invasion of space." He said that obscene jokes, terms of endearment, being called by a first name when other are called by a title, and patting may be harassment when made the condition of a job, the basis for employment decisions, or when job performance is affected.

Although men are also victims of sexual harassment, he said, women are the majority of victims with men as perpetrators.

Ross said that more cases of harassment exist than are reported. "You only read about the reported rapes," he said. "No woman would want to go into a courtroom and say 'Yes, I had

sex with that man,'" when it was violence, he said.

Ross said that 59 percent of reported rapes are filed by women 20-24 years old, while 22 percent of reported rapes are filed by women 50 and older. Ross said that older women are more reluctant to report harassment because they think that "any attention is better than none."

Ross said the socialization process is a cause of harassment because it "is responsible for the way we behave."

"Remember when your mom used to send you and your younger brother to the store? Who got to carry the money? Was he told to look after you, too?"

While men like to socialize in large groups, women tend to stick to one or two female friends. Different social responses, including male bonding and a need for acceptance, make sexual-harassment possible, he said.

Ross said that male bonding makes men reluctant to criticize another man's behavior and causes them to support each other, while peer

pressure causes them to act. "Men approve of us hitting on the broad," Ross said.

Ross said that from the socialization process also comes women's beliefs that expressing negative feelings will bring punishment, for example, being demoted or fired in a job. "The victim feels inferior and a loss of self-esteem," he said.

Ross said that just as genocide is the last step of racism, psychological invisibility is the last step of sexism.

Psychological invisibility means "I don't see you because you're different from myself," he said.

He also said that "exclusion language," such as a speaker directing "gentlemen, please be seated" to a group of men and women, is a part of psychological invisibility.

However, "some women are breaking the cycle of not sitting when a speaker says 'gentleman,'" Ross said. He said now more women will remain standing until they're acknowledged.

Ross said that treating women and men as

sex objects, as shown in "Playboy and other electronic media," is also a form of harassment which stems from the socialization process.

If experimenting harassment on the job, Ross said, file a sexual discrimination complaint with the Human Relations Department. "And if your boss or whoever treats you differently for filing, file another complaint of retaliation, and that'll reinforce the first one even more," Ross said.

"Women have to stop and take a stand," he said, and avoid changing jobs to escape harassment.

"I've seen resumes that look like a shot gun," Ross said, "but most supervisors won't stop and ask you why you've changed jobs so often."

"If a woman's taken off the work line, how can she progress up the ladder?" Ross asked.

Ross said he wants to see sexual harassers punished. "Sexual harassment is no more than embezzlement," he said. "I'm 51 years old and I'm sick of it. I want to go through the whole criminal process and make it a criminal offense. If you're guilty, I want to see you serve some time," Ross said.

## Preview

## 'Fool for Love' production opens today

"This play is to be performed relentlessly, without a break" — Sam Shepard's opening directions on the script of *Fool for Love*.

*Fool for Love* begins a five-day run in the UNO Studio Theater today. Michael P. Markey is directing the one-act play as part of his graduate thesis project in dramatic arts.

In *Fool for Love*, Markey said, the characters are forced to come to terms with the secrets of the past. Eddie and Mae fell in love while in high school and for 15 years have played with an on-and-off relationship. Into their battle, their dream, intrudes an old man. He raises painful questions about the personal histories of the characters, and the difference between fantasy and reality.

The characters manipulate their past experiences, suppressing or altering facts, to fit the demands of conscience. In this way, Markey said the characters tend to create their own truths.

Markey said *Fool for Love* will appeal to people who enjoy the game Clue. "It's not so much a who-did-it, but a why-was-it-done? Not who is at fault, but where were the mistakes made? Shepard doesn't spend a lot of time giving psychological justi-

fications," Markey said. "He asks more questions on the emotional level."

*Fool for Love* becomes a social commentary on the lost American dream. During rehearsals the cast abandoned their original concept of relating the story from Eddie and Mae's point of view and switched to the perspective of the old man. Markey and the actors felt it was the old man who tied all of the pieces of the play together.

"The American dream was the old man's dream," Markey said, "only he could never have it." The present generation, represented by Mae and Eddie, must pay for the old man's sins. Markey said the play is a "fractured picture that becomes clear if you put it altogether. A picture of dislocated lives — dislocated from what was the American dream."

Aside from his high regard for Sam Shepard as America's leading contemporary playwright, Markey chose to direct *Fool for Love* because of the technical challenges it presents. The play is very physical and the set had to be durable. "Doors slam, boom, reverberate; the script is very specific about sounds."

Markey said sounds that couldn't be found in local sound

libraries had to be created. "It wasn't easy to find the sound of a fire." We tried the sound of an ocean, slowed down, reduced the sound of firecrackers and added little pops like a fire pops. "It worked."

Markey views directing as a collaborative effort. He said there is so much to think about in a production it would be foolish to negate the help offered by cast and crew members.

Markey enjoys the objectivity of directing and the technical aspects of producing a show, but his real love is acting. Markey has appeared in seven Circle Theater productions as the owner of Phil's Diner. He said performing is the only time "I'm able to vent every frustration, every emotion, every terrible thing I have going on in my life and people applaud for it. On the street they just snicker and turn away."

*Fool for Love* will feature Ramona Egbrett, Kevin Ehrhart, Phil Aparo and Bob Donlan. The one-act play begins at 8 p.m. Jan. 29 through Feb. 2 and has a running time of about an hour and a half. Reservations may be made at the Theatre Ticket office, first floor, Arts and Sciences Hall, or by calling 554-2335.

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# Sports

## King steals victory from the Fighting Sioux

By KEVIN McANDREWS

The UNO men's basketball team went on a Wild West hunting trip in North Dakota last weekend.

The Mavs returned to Omaha having bagged a couple of Bison and some Fighting Sioux as they made a two-game sweep defeating North Dakota State, 66-60, and North Dakota, 48-45.

Mike Born, a 6-foot-1 sophomore who plays guard for the Mavericks, led UNO with 18 points and six rebounds against North Dakota State. Bryan Muellner scored 13 points and Bill Jacobson had 11.

Saturday night, the Mavs and the Fighting Sioux both had their offense problems. In the final minutes of the game, things could have gone either way.

With less than two minutes, North Dakota had a chance to tie the game at 43 all. A missed shot was rebounded by North Dakota, but Dwayne King stole the ball with 51 seconds left in the game.

An intentional foul committed by Tom Addison, a freshman guard for North Dakota, sent

King to the line shooting one-and-one. King made the first free throw, but missed the second.

North Dakota rebounded the missed free throw, and scored making it 44-43, but on the inbound pass, Muellner got open on a break away and scored for the Mavs.

Addison committed another intentional foul trying to stop Muellner from scoring on the break away which sent him to the line for two shots. Muellner made both, icing the game for UNO.

According to Bob Hanson, UNO head basketball coach, King had the only steal in the ball game for the Mavericks.

"It was a great steal by Dwayne King," said Hanson. "He anticipated that way down the road, and then made a key free throw."

Hanson said he thought UNO did a good job rebounding the ball and playing defense.

"The only thing we didn't do well is shoot," said Hanson. "But if you take care of the other facets of the game, you'll do all right."

Hanson said Born and Mark Miller did a great job of keeping the ball out of the high-post area.

Tom Thompson, a 6-foot-7 forward for UNO, had only four points against North Dakota State. Saturday night, Thompson, who has been a leading scorer for the Mavericks, scored only six points against the Sioux.

Thompson, who missed a week due to pneumonia, did not start against North Dakota, but Hanson said Thompson saw as much playing time as he usually does.

"When you miss a week and a half like that, you have a hard time getting back in the game," said Hanson about Thompson's performance. "He did a good job defensively."

Though Thompson did not score much against the Sioux, Hanson said every basket was a key to the Mav's victory because the scoring was low.

"You want them to be close in North Dakota," said Hanson. "That means you have a chance to win it."

UNO will be on the road again this weekend. They will play at South Dakota State Friday, and at Augustana Saturday night.

With this weekend's victories, the Mavericks are 13-6 overall, and 5-4 in the North Central Conference.



Dwayne King made a key steal in the final seconds of the North Dakota game Saturday night which allowed the Mavericks to win, 48-45.

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